WHAT IS CLAIMED AND DESIRED TO BE SECURED BY LETTERS PATENT OF THE UNITED STATES IS:

Claim Set # 1

1. A method, comprising the steps of:

identifying an anchor point;

defining at least one radial extending from said anchor point; and

associating at least one item relating to said anchor point with said radials.

2. A method of searching a single layer database, comprising the steps of:

determining if outside data matches information associated with any of known locations and general categories stored in said database displaying information identifying said known locations; and

displaying radials associated with said outside data matching any of said general categories.

3. The method according to claim 1, further comprising the steps of:

interpolating positions on a respective radial corresponding to each of outside data matches corresponding to the respective radial; and

placing a marker at each interpolated position of the displayed respective radial.

4. The method according to claim 3, wherein said marker is any of a point, notch, and icon representation of information associated with each outside data match.

5. The method according to claim 2, further comprising the step of:

attaching a marker to at least one of said radials.

6. The method according to claim 1, further comprising the step of:

storing said radials in a database;

wherein,

said step of identifying an anchor point comprises the step of,

identifying said anchor point in said database, and

said step of associating comprises the step of,

associating information in said database with said radials, said information relating to said anchor point.

7. The method according to claim 6, wherein said database is a geocoded database of mapping information, and said items are locations within an area associated with said anchor point.

8. The method according to claim 6, wherein said database is a database of satellite information, said anchor point represents a position on a globe, and said items are satellites orbiting above an approximate position of said anchor point.

9. The method according to claim 8, wherein each radial identifies at least one feature of at least one of said satellites.

10. The method according to claim 6, further comprising the steps of:

matching outside data to information associated with said items; and

displaying each radial having associated information that matches said outside data.

11. The method according to claim 10, wherein said outside data is location information of data stored in said database.

12. The method according to claim 1, wherein said step of defining a radial comprises the steps of:

assigning a direction to each respective radial; and

calculating an endpoint for each respective radial, defining each respective radial from said centroid to its endpoint.

13. The method according to claim 12, wherein said step of determining a direction of said radial comprises the step of:

assigning a direction to each respective radial based on at least one of information and features of the item associated with the respective radial.

14. The method according to claim 13, wherein said information and features is at least one of a margin of error with which said anchor point identifies a location corresponding to said item, facilities, including any one of parking, food, and communications

associated with said item, and any other information or features related to said item.

15. The method according to claim 1, wherein said anchor point is a centroid and each item is a location within an area associated with said centroid.

16. The method according to claim 15, wherein each radial identifies a location within an area of said centroid, and a proximity of said location to said centroid.

17. The method according to claim 2, wherein said step of displaying comprises the steps of:

displaying said radials; and

displaying distinguishing marks on respective radials having associated items with features corresponding to said distinguishing marks.

18. The method according to claim 17, wherein said distinguishing marks are at least one of color of said radials, any of points, marks, or notches, geometric shapes, flags, and shapes of said radials.

19. The method according to claim 17, wherein said features are any of proximity of said matching outside data to a base point, facilities, including restrooms, food availability, and parking associated with said items, demographics associated with said items, and any other features associated with said items.

Claim Set #2 -- Consolidated database

1. A method of building a database, comprising the steps of:

loading data items having known and unknown locations into said database;

location coding each of said data items having known locations;

associating each of said items having unknown locations with a line representing the unknown location.

2. The method according to Claim 1, wherein said step of associating comprises the step of:

identifying an anchor point related to said unknown location;

defining said line including said anchor point; and

storing said line in association with said unconfirmed location.

3. The methods according to Claim 2, wherein said step of storing comprises at least one of:

storing an end point in association with said anchor point; and

storing a direction and distance from said anchor point.

4. The method according to Claim 2, wherein said step of defining includes the steps of:

defining a direction of said line corresponding to at least one characteristic of said unconfirmed location.

5. The method according to Claim 4, wherein said characteristic is a precision of said anchor point as an approximation of said unconfirmed location.

6. The method according to Claim 1, wherein said anchor point is a centroid related to said unconfirmed location.

7. The method according to Claim 5, wherein:

said anchor point is a zip code centroid; and

said direction identifies a zip + XX precision of the zip code centroid as an approximation of said unconfirmed location.

Claim Set #3 -- Method of searching a one layer database

1. A method, comprising the steps of:

searching a data layer for matches to a set of at least one searching criteria;

displaying data layer matches having confirmed locations on a display grid; and

extending a radial from an anchor point associated with a search criteria not matched in said searching step.

2. The method according to Claim 1, wherein said step of extending a radial comprises the step of:

extending said radial in a direction identified with a characteristic consistent with the search criteria not matched.

3. The method according to Claim 2, wherein said characteristic is a precision of said anchor point with respect to an approximate location on said display grid of the search criteria not matched.

4. The method according to Claim 3, wherein said precision is a zip + XX precision, and said anchor point is a zip code centroid.

5. The method according to Claim 1, wherein said step of extending a radial comprises the step of:

including an iconic representation on said radial identifying a characteristic of the search criteria not matched.

6. The method according to Claim 1, wherein said display grid is a map.

7. The method according to Claim 1, wherein:

said step of searching includes the step of,

receiving said set of at least one searching criteria via a first communication mechanism; and

said step of displaying comprises sending display data corresponding to said data layer matches via a second communication mechanism to a display device.

8. The method according to Claim 7, wherein:

said first and second communication mechanisms are at least one of, an Internet connection, a wide area network, a local area network, a satellite

communication mechanism, a radio communication mechanism, a telephone connection, a cable modem mechanism, and other communication mechanisms; and

said display device is one of a flat panel display, a CRT, a browser window, a notebook computer display, a palm pilot, a cellular phone display panel, VR headset, and other display mechanisms.